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(54) Title: LIGANDS

(57) Abstract: Aptamers that bind to viral envelope proteins, in particular those that bind to the envelope glycoprotein gp120 of HIV are disclosed. The use of these aptamers for screening potential therapeutic targets and in the treatment of HIV infections is also described.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte	al Application No
PCT/GB 03/04897	

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C07K14/16 C12N15/11 C12Q1/68 A61K31/70 A61P31/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C12N C12Q A61K A61P C07K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
E	WO 2004/026260 A (ARCHEMIX CORP. (US) ; WILSON CHARLES; EPSTEIN DAVID; DIENER JOHN L.) 1 April 2004 (2004-04-01) the whole document ----	1-4,6-12
E	WO 03/102131 A (SIRNA THERAPEUTICS INC. (US); MACEJAK DENNI; BLATT L.; MCSWIGGEN JAMES) 11 December 2003 (2003-12-11) the whole document ----	1-4,6-12
E	WO 2004/007748 A (SIRNA THERAPEUTICS, INC. (US); VARGESE C.; SHAFFER C.; BOWMAN K.) 22 January 2004 (2004-01-22) page 38, lines 6-20 ----	1-4, 10-12 -/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

• Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No
PCT/GB 03/04897

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	SAYER N. ET AL.: "Structural characterization of a 2'F-RNA aptamer that binds a HIV-1 SU glycoprotein, gp120" BIOCHEMICAL AND BIOPHYSICAL RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS, vol. 293, no. 3, 10 May 2002 (2002-05-10), pages 924-931, XP002283886 the whole document -----	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

I International application No.
PCT/GB 03/04897

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claim 12 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

In International Application No

EP, GB 03/04897

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